#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency Washington DC 20250 Notice AO-1286

For: State and County Offices

### 2003 County Committee (COC) Election Ballots

Lough Trongs

**Approved by:** Deputy Administrator, Field Operations

#### 1 Overview

### A Background

Ballots for the 2003 COC election are being printed and mailed by an outside contractor. The process for entering the nominee names and ballot information is now a web-based system. Employees responsible for entering this information will need their WebCAAF ID's and passwords. The WebCAAF ID is the employee's original ICAMS ID. The password is the original ICAMS password. If the password has been changed for ICAMS, and the employee no longer knows what the original password was, call the National Help Desk at 800-255-2434 to have the password reset.

County Offices shall input the COC nominee and ballot information using the slate of nominees developed from FSA-669A, which was submitted as the source of the nominee information.

If any number of nominations are received from the public nomination process, no further action will be taken to fill a slate. The election will be held with the nominations received. If only 1 person is nominated through the public nomination process, only that name will appear on the ballot. There should, if possible, be at least 1 nominee from socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers.

If **no** nominations for the COC position have been received for LAA holding an election, COC's **must** fill a slate with 3 names with at least 1 nominee representing socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in the county. This information must be entered by September 19, 2003.

Disposal Date	Distribution
September 1, 2004	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

### 1 Overview (Continued)

### **B** Purpose

This notice explains to State and County Offices the process of entering the ballot and nominee information into the web-based system, and the updating of the race, sex, and national origin data (RSNOD) into SCIMS. The timeframe for entering the information is September 10, 2003, through September 19, 2003. The ballot information **must** be entered no later than September 19, 2003, in order for the information to be transmitted to the contractor by the deadline.

#### C Contact

If there are questions about this notice:

- County Offices shall contact the State Office
- State Offices shall contact Ken Nagel, DAFO, by telephone at 202-720-7890, or Deborah Johnson, DAFO, at 202-720-0067, or by FAX at 202-720-5900.

#### 2 Action

### A Update

Before accessing the website to begin entering the ballot information and nominees, all counties in the system and all eligible voters in the Name and Address file must be updated with the COC and LAA codes according to 15-AO, Part 3, Section 4.

Any additional changes to the Name and Address file, such as a new producer or address changes should be completed when received. Changes made by September 19, 2003, will be included in the database sent to the contractor and will be used to send out the ballots.

### **B** Entering Ballot Information

Enter the COC election website address: http://neptune.fsa.usda.gov/COC/Index.jsp. Users will need to go through WebCAAF Authentication and Authorization Process to sign in to the site. To do this, users will need their WebCAAF ID and password. If employees do not know their WebCAAF ID and password, the Help Desk should be contacted at 800-255-2434 for support.

# 2 Action (Continued)

# **B** Entering Ballot Information (Continued)

Enter ballot information according to this table. See Exhibit 1 for screen prints.

Step	Screen Title	Action
1	USDA WebCAAF Authentication	PRESS "Continue".
	and Authorization Warning Screen	
2	Please enter your credentials	Enter WebCAAF User ID and Password.
		PRESS "Login" or "Enter".
3	County Office Committee Election	PRESS "County FSA Committee Elections Login".
4	Administering Location	Pre-filled with user's State and county (unless shared
		management office), use:
		• drop-down box to select number of COC's with elections (may be 1, 2, or 3 – for shared management offices only)
		next drop-down box to select the identifying number of LAA's having an election
		<b>Note:</b> Process each COC and LAA separately.
		PRESS "Submit".
5	Administering Office Location	Check address for accuracy and PRESS "OK".
6	Voting Location	Verify Voting Location address.
		If correct, check the box and PRESS "Submit".
		• If incorrect, enter the full address in the fields provided and PRESS "Submit".
		<b>Example:</b> If Administrative Office address is a post office box, and you want the street address shown as the voting location on the ballot, enter the street
		address. PRESS "Submit".

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# 1 Action (Continued)

# **B** Entering Ballot Information (Continued)

Step	Screen Title	Action	
7	Ballot Data	<ul> <li>Choose the address of the location where the ballots will be counted by checking the corresponding box. If correct address is not listed, enter full address in the appropriate fields.</li> <li>Select month and day from drop downs and fill in year for date ballots are to</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Enter the time the ballots will be counted, and select the radio button for a.m. or p.m.</li> </ul>	
		Number of candidates to select: prefilled.  PDEGG (G. 1)	
8	Candidate Search	PRESS "Submit".	
		<ul> <li>Enter either of the following:</li> <li>the last 4 digits of the candidate's ID</li> <li>the first few letters of his or her last name</li> <li>PRESS "Submit".</li> </ul>	
9	Candidate Data	From the list that appears when you PRESS the "Candidate" drop-down box, select the correct name for the candidate. If the candidate goes by a nickname, enter it in the "Nickname" field. PRESS "Add to list", and the candidate's name will appear in the "Candidates Entered" field.  To select another candidate, PRESS "Search"; and repeat the process until all candidates have been entered.  If an incorrect candidate is accidentally added to the list:	
		<ul> <li>click on the incorrect candidate to highlight his or her name</li> <li>PRESS "Remove from List" to delete his or her name.</li> </ul>	
		When all candidates are shown in the "Candidates Entered" field, PRESS "Finish".	

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### 1 Action (Continued)

### **B** Entering Ballot Information (Continued)

Step	Screen Title	Action
10	Is this data correct?	Check the data in each section for accuracy, and select the radio button to indicate "Yes" or "No", and PRESS "Submit".
		If the user has selected "No" for any field, indicating that some piece of information is incorrect, and presses "Submit", the user will be taken back to the screen to correct that piece of information. Correct the information and PRESS "Submit" again to go back to the screen to verify that all the information is correct.
		When all of the "Yes" buttons have been selected, print this page for your records. It will be the only hard copy you will have of the information you have input showing your nominees and other ballot data. Retain this copy with the current election records.
		PRESS "Submit".
11	Transaction	The user will receive the message, "Transaction Completed".
	Completed	

### **C** Entering RSNOD into SCIMS

FSA-669A encouraged the nominee to complete the race, sex, and national origin self-identification fields. If these have been completed, this information will need to be updated in the SCIMS records at this time. See 1-CM for assistance. If the nominee did not complete this information, no action is required. Do **not** make any changes to the SCIMS data that was not provided by the nominee.

#### **WebCAAF Screen Prints**



WebCAAF
Authentication and Authorization

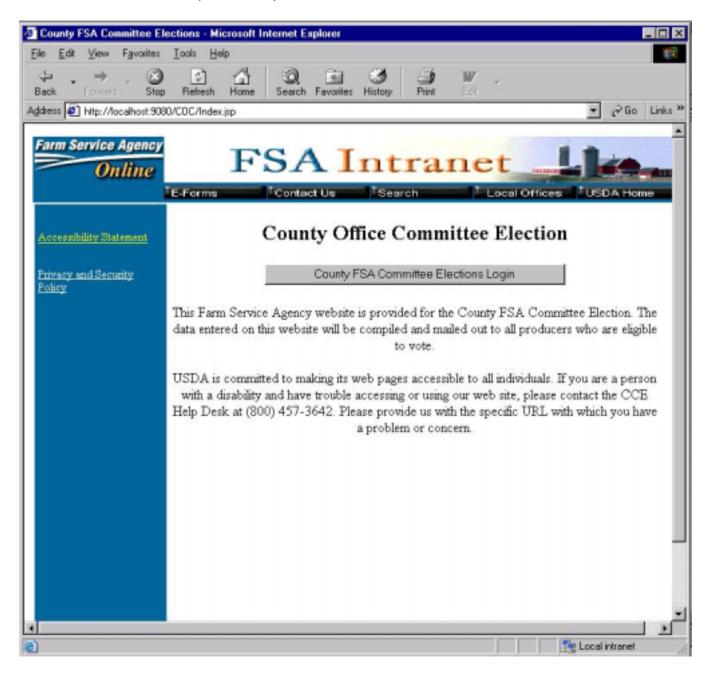
\*

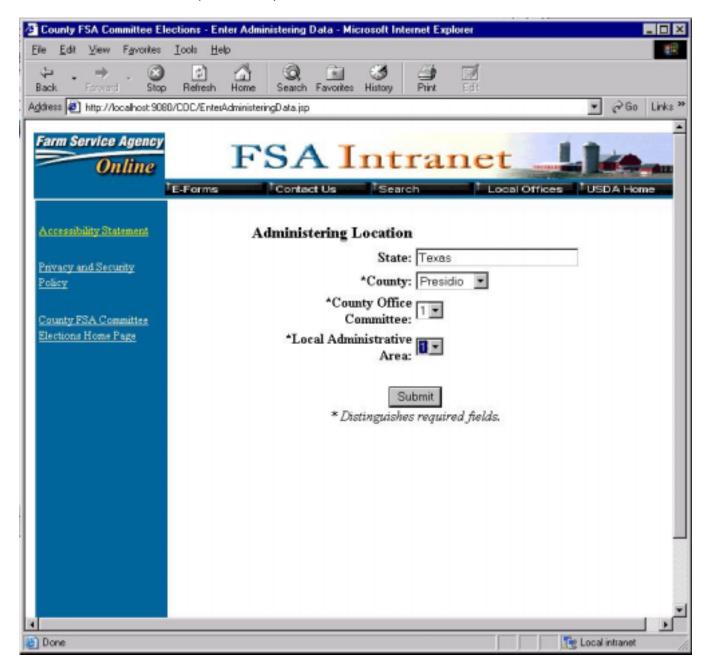
YOU HAVE CONNECTED TO A U.S. GOVERNMENT COMPUTER, IF YOU ARE NOT AUTHORIZED ACCESS TO THIS SYSTEM, DISCONNECT NOW.

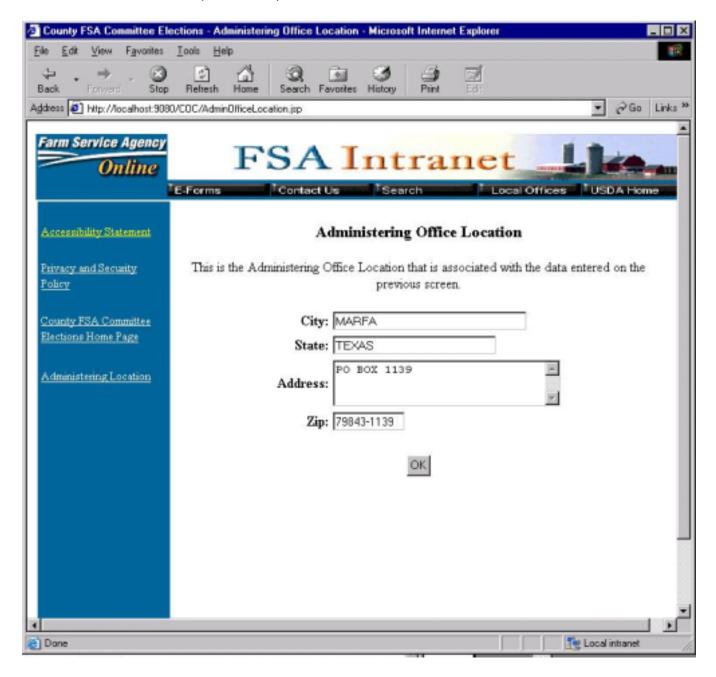
All attempts to access and use this system and/or its resources are subject to keystroke monitoring and recording. Everyone using this system expressly consents to such monitoring and is advised that if such reveals possible evidence of criminal activity or abuse of authority, the information will be reported to authorities for action. Unauthorized access attempts or use in excess of documented authority may subject you to a fine and/or imprisonment in accordance with Title 18, USC, Section 1030 or administrative penalties or dismissal.

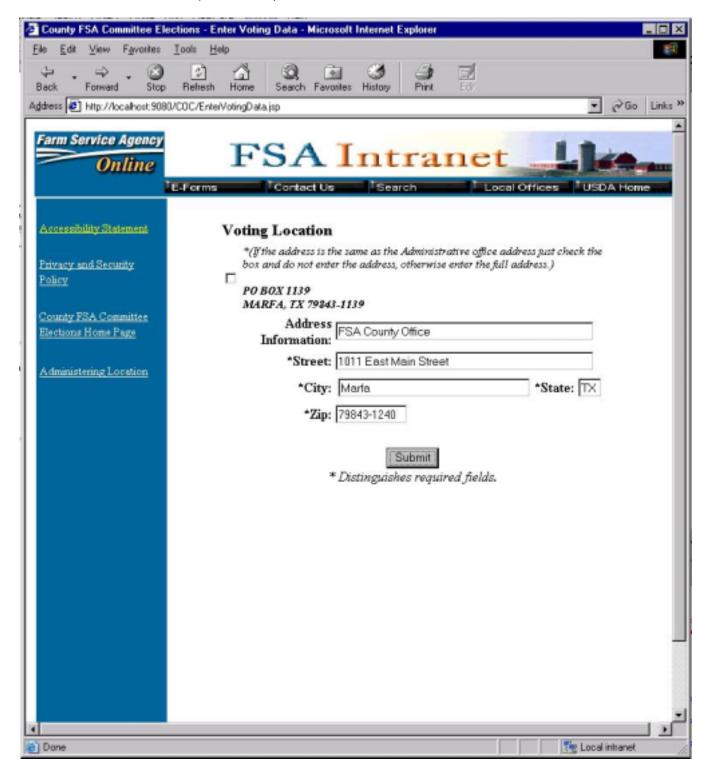
Passwords used by this authentication service expire every 90 days. You are encouraged to frequently change your password to reduce the risk that it will be compromised.

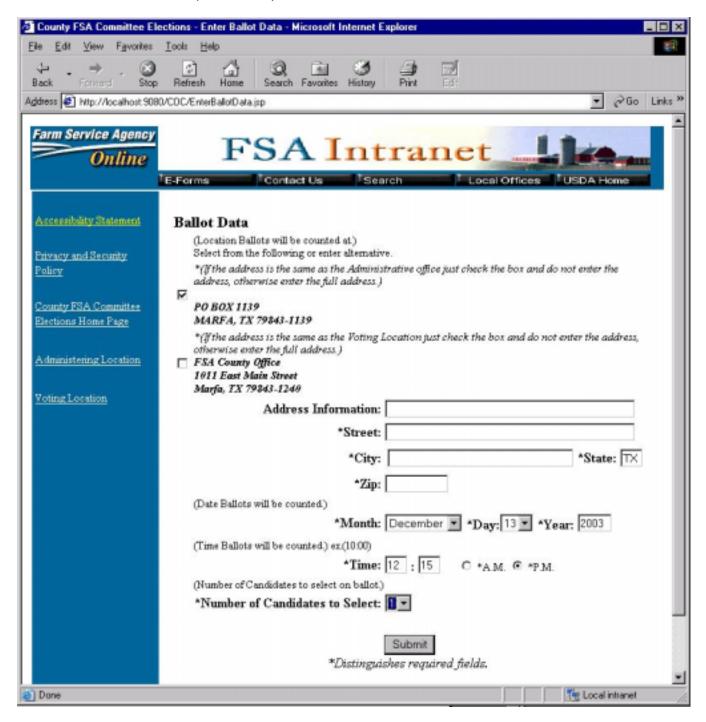
USDA UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE	WebCAAF Authentication and Authorization		
Please enter your credentials:			
User ID:  Password:  Login	and the Control of th		
Change Password Forgot Passwor	d Reset Password Hint		

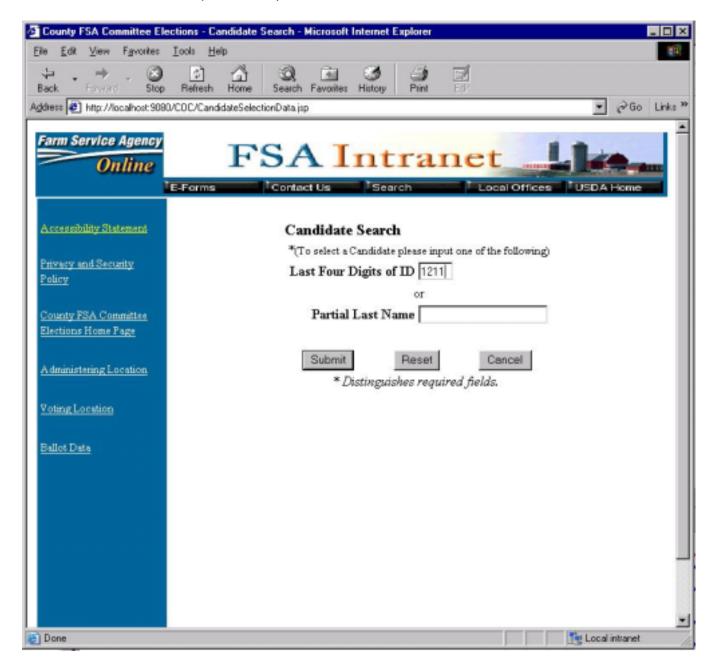


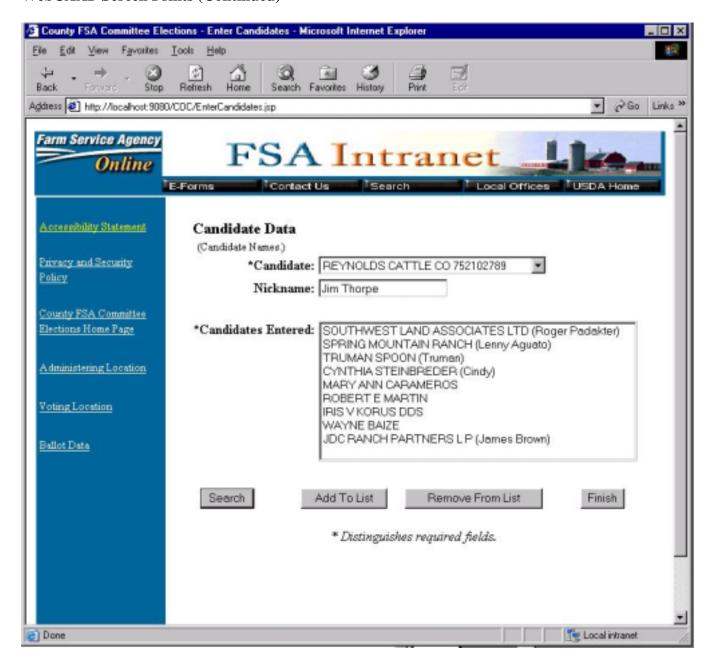


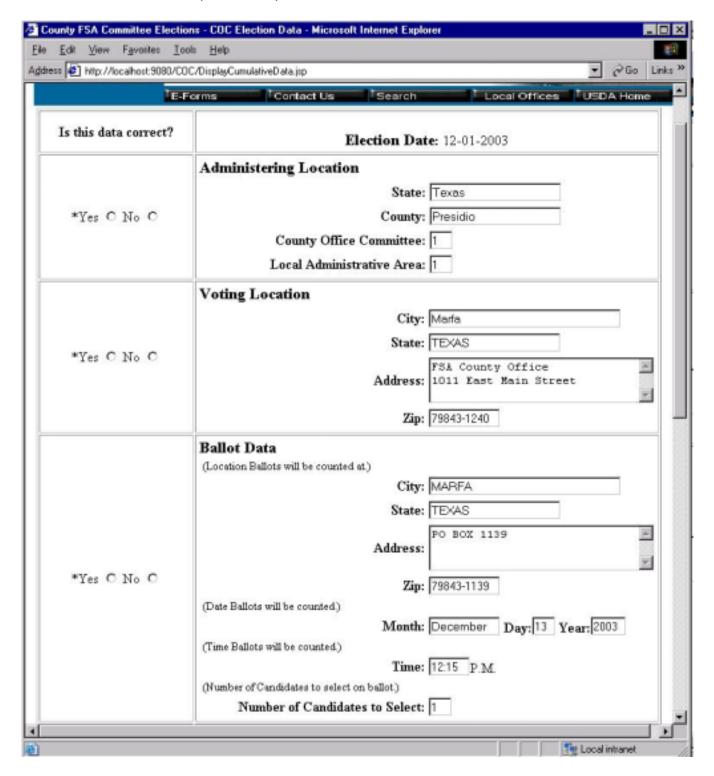


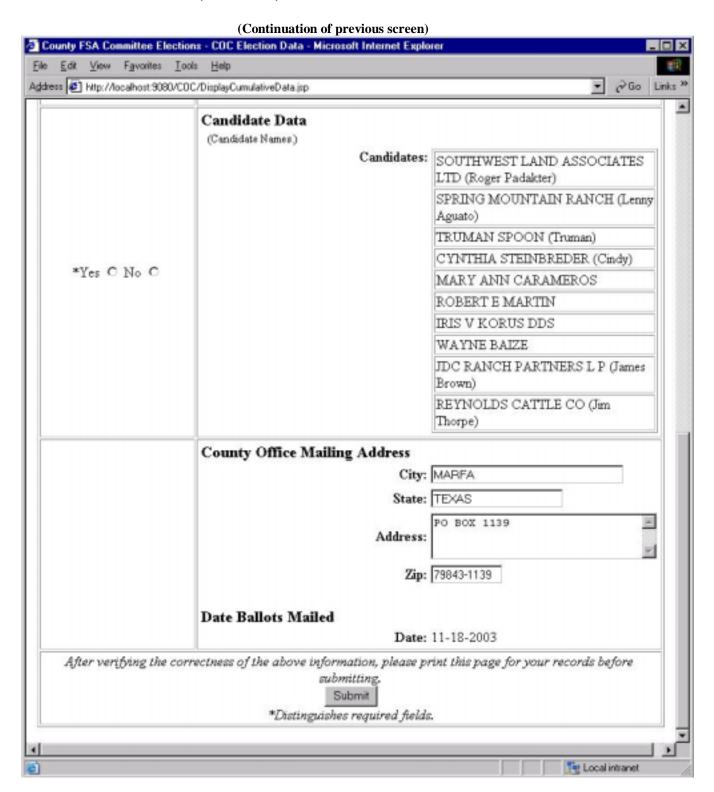
















Accessibility Statement

Privacy and Security Policy

County FSA Committee Elections Home Page

# **Transaction Completed**

The information was successfully stored.

County FSA Committee Elections Login